

## Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-04 PA-02 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-12 ACDA-08 IO-03 DPW-01 MC-02 DRC-01 /090 W

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R 060947Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8735

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 19014

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI, VS

SUBJECT: ENEMY ROCKET ATTACK ON BIEN HOA AIR BASE

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

BIEN HOA'S 579 IS BEING REPEATED FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

1. AT 0600 TODAY COMMUNISTS FIRED APPROXIMATELY ONE-HUNDRED 122MM ROCKETS, REPORTEDLY MIXED WITH 82 MM MORTARS, AT BIEN HOA AIRBASE. AT LEAST 23 ROUNDS IMPACTED WITHIN BASE PERIMETER. ADJACENT MR III HEADQUARTERS WAS ALSO HIT BY AT LEAST TWO AND POSSIBLY AS MANY AS FOUR ROUNDS. CASUALTIES AT AIRBASE WERE NONE KILLED, 13 WOUNDED. UNCONFIRMED REPORTS LIST ONE ARVN LT. KIA, FOUR OTHERS WIA INCLUDING A RALLIER AND TWO ARVN ESCAPEES AT CORPS INTERROGATION CENTER. DAMAGE TO AIRBASE INCLUDED TOTAL DESTRUCTION OF THREE F-5A FIGHTER-BOMBERS AND DAMAGE OR DESTRUCTION OF A FOURTH. THE THREE F-5A'S WERE CONFIRMED BY AMERICAN MEMBER OF CONGEN STAFF WHO PHOTOGRAPHED DESTROYED AIRCRAFT. OTHER MATERIAL DAMAGE AT AIRBASE WAS LIMITED TO MINOR BUILDING DEFACING AND DESTRUCTION OF SEVERAL MOTOTBIKES. A SMALL AMMUNITION STORAGE AREA WAS DESTROYED AT MR III HEADQUARTERS PLUS A DEPENDENT HOUSING UNIT.

2. THE LAUNCH AREA WAS IDENTIFIED BY MEMBERS OF 81ST ARVN

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RANGER BN IN TAN UYEN DISTRICT AT APPROXIMATELY YT009270. TWO

ELEMENTS OF THIS BN WERE REPORTEDLY WITHIN TWO OR THREE KILOMETERS OF THE SITE WHEN ROCKETS WERE LAUNCHED. THIS LOCATION IS ELEVEN KILOMETERS FROM THE AIRBASE AT THE MAXIMUM RANGE OF 122MM ROCKETS. A MORTAR POSITION WAS LOCATED ONLY THREE KILOMETERS EAST OF THE RUNWAYS. NO INFORMATION RECEIVED, AS YET, CONCERNING RESULTS OF REACTION FORCES AGAINST COMMUNIST POSITIONS.

3. ALSO REPORTED WAS SEVEN 122 MM ROCKETS IMPACTING AT BUU LONG (V), BIEN HOA (P) LOCATED ONE KILOMETER FROM AIRBASE, CAUSING ONE CHILD KIA, TWO CIVILIANS WIA, AND ONE HOUSE DESTROYED. OTHER REPORTS INDICATE AN ADDITIONAL CIVILIAN KIA AND 18 CIVILIANS WIA IN AREAS OUTSIDE BASE WHERE ABOUT FORTY ROCKETS LANDED.

4. TOTAL CASUALTIES REPORTED ARE: 1 ARVN KIA, TWO CIVILIANS KIA, INCLUDING A CHILD, 16 ARVN WIA, ONE RALLIER WIA, AND FIVE CIVILIANS WIA.  
MARTIN

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## Message Attributes

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